



THE  
CECE YARA  
PARTNERSHIP

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How  
You  
Can  
Help.



*...where small voices can be heard.*

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## The Cece Yara Foundation



### THE ISSUE – CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Child Sexual Abuse is the inappropriate exposure or subjection of a child to sexual contact, activity or behaviour by an adult or older youth.

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) causes short and long-term negative mental health and developmental outcomes among children, adolescents, and as they finally emerge as adults. An abused child is faced with an increased risk for lifetime diagnoses of several psychiatric disorders, including depression, anxiety disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, and personality disorders. Other indications of mental health problems among CSA victims are substance and alcoholic abuse, higher levels of self-harm and suicide attempts. Victims of CSA are at risk of

distortions in their psychobiological development and diminished physical health. In addition, victims of CSA may have difficulties with fulfilling their adult social roles, such as establishing and maintaining high quality relationships, acquiring well-paid jobs, and developing positive and effective parenting skills.

## 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 10 boys

in Nigeria experience sexual violence before the age of 18 years



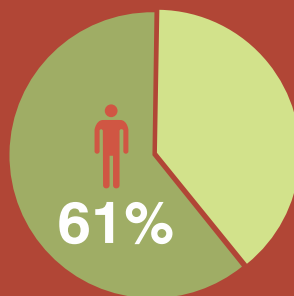
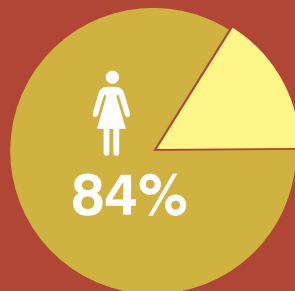
One In 4 Girls Experience Sexual Violence before Age 18.



One In 10 Boys Experience Sexual Violence Before Age 18.

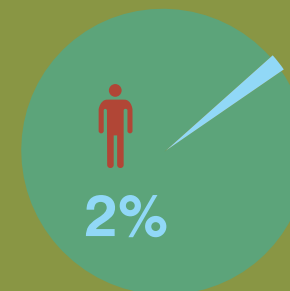
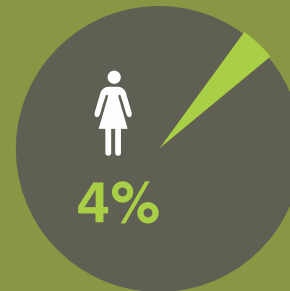
## 84% of females and 61% of males

in Nigeria who experienced sexual violence before the age of 18 years do not know where to seek help.



## Only 4% of girls and 2% of boys

in Nigeria received help after experiencing sexual violence.



## Who We Are

The Cece Yara Foundation is a child-centred non-profit organisation established in 2016 to prevent child sexual abuse and provide access to care, information, protection and emergency intervention for children who are sexually abused or at risk, and their family.

The Foundation provides the ideal response to children through a 24-hour free child telephone helpline and its child-friendly Child Advocacy Centre based in Lagos, which provides professional counselling, medical, legal and psycho-social support, as well as referral services.

The Foundation also conducts prevention programs for children and adults to raise the awareness of sexual abuse, and to educate adults on how to protect children from sexual abuse.

## Our Vision

A safe and happy childhood for each Nigerian child, free from sexual abuse, with easy access to care, information, protection and emergency intervention.



# What We Do & How We Do It

<p><b>24hr Free Child Helpline</b> Providing access to help and emergency intervention.</p>		<p><b>Child Advocacy Centre</b> Providing Counselling, Medical, Legal &amp; Psycho-social Support Services.</p>	<p><b>Forensic Interview Suite</b> Obtaining quality evidential statements from children in an objective, developmentally sensitive, and legally defensible manner - critical to swift and successful CSA criminal investigations.</p>
<p><b>The Cece Yara Child Advocacy Shelter</b> Providing emergency shelter for 3 months to families.</p>		<p><b>Safe Kids Awareness &amp; Prevention Program</b> Empowering children on how to prevent child sexual abuse.</p>	<p><b>Stakeholders' Forum</b> To build a formal network and framework with other child-protection stakeholders.</p>
	<p><b>Adults Prevention Awareness Program</b> Teaching adults how to recognise and prevent child sexual abuse.</p>		

## Our Partners

 <b>LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT</b> MINISTRY OF HEALTH	 <b>Lagos State</b> Ministry of Education	 OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER	 NIGERIA POLICE FORCE	 LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH	 LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH	 <b>OLAJIDE OYEWOLE</b>	
 Lagos State Ministry of Youth, Sports and Social Development Office of Youth and Social Development	 <b>LAGOS STATE</b> MINISTRY OF JUSTICE	 LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT MINISTRY OF JUSTICE	 DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESPONSE TEAM (DSVRT)	 <b>MIRABEL</b> CENTRE	 <b>WARIF</b> WOMEN AT RISK INTEGRATED RESPONSE	 <b>Child Protection</b> Network	 <b>LSD&amp;FC</b> LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT LAW ENFORCEMENT & FORENSIC CENTRE

# 24hr Free Child Helpline

## Providing Access To Help And Emergency Intervention

<b>Location:</b>	Lagos State
<b>Reach:</b>	10,000 Callers (Jan – Dec 2019)

The Cece Yara Foundation's 24-hour toll-free helpline is the first telecommunication and outreach service exclusively for children in Nigeria, and it provides direct telephone services, including counselling, advocacy, medical, referrals and active listening. The child helpline is accessible to children and young people around the clock and free of charge, enabling children who are victims or are vulnerable to sexual abuse to contact someone; it provides children and young people with an opportunity to express their concerns and talk about the issues directly affecting them particularly on sexual abuse (usually for the first time), and provides intervention and support services.

Our 24-hour free-phone Child Helpline is manned by fully trained counsellors who provide a listening ear, counselling, referral services or emergency intervention when needed. For the first time, our children now have a safe space to disclose their abuse without fear of reprisal, shame or guilt.

### **Goal**

- To provide a safe space where children or concerned adults can disclose their abuse without fear, and provide them with support.

### **Objectives**

- To Ensure that every child in Nigeria has access to emergency assistance
- To be available for every child in need of care and protection
- To provide a free, private confidential service targeted at children, where they can be themselves
- To provide a platform where children can make disclosures comfortably



# Child Advocacy Centre

Providing Counselling, Medical, Legal & Psycho-social Support Services

<b>Location:</b>	Lagos State
<b>Reach:</b>	5,000 Families (Jan – Dec 2019)

The Cece Yara Child Advocacy Centre is a state-of-the-art facility which provides a warm, safe, child-centred, non-threatening, facility-based service in which child-focused professionals work together for the well-being of children and their families traumatized by sexual abuse. The Centre has established programs to prevent child sexual abuse, to serve and support victims of child sexual abuse in order to promote healing and to educate the public to protect children from sexual abuse.

The Child Advocacy Centre's multi-disciplinary team include social workers, therapists, advocates, lawyers, forensic interviewers and volunteers who interface with the Police, The Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Youths and Social Development, Mental Health and Medical Professionals and enable a multi-disciplinary approach to attending to cases of child sexual abuse.

## **Treatment**

- Providing information concerning medical and mental health services, examinations, evaluations
- Providing specialised medical evaluation and treatment as part of the Child Advocacy Centre's response.
- Providing a consistent, comfortable child-friendly setting for children youth and their families, where they can feel safe and cared for
- Providing crisis intervention and emotional support through our Child Advocacy Program, from the disclosure of abuse, throughout the investigation and prosecution of the case.
- Providing professional therapy for children to promote healing. Individual, group, and play therapy are offered. Teens and their care-givers may participate in the Survivors Support Group sessions.

### ***Investigation & Prosecution***

- Establishing a Multi-Disciplinary Team to interface with the Police, The Ministry of Justice, The Ministry of Youth & Social Development, Mental Health Professionals, Medical and Child Advocates; and enabling a multi-disciplinary approach to attending to cases of child sexual abuse
- Assisting in the investigations of sexual abuse cases by carrying out neutral, fact finding and coordinated forensic interviews of children and non-offending family members, by trained professionals in a child-friendly non-threatening environment, where disclosure of abuse is made to the helpline or at the Centre
- Limiting the number of times each child is interviewed
- Limiting the children's need to travel to various investigative and child protective agencies
- Providing legal assistance required and a watching brief for all prosecutions
- Providing support and being the advocate for the child and family during investigations
- Providing a place for children and witnesses to wait prior to a court hearing
- Ensuring that prosecutions are carried out diligently and successful outcomes are achieved.

# Forensic Interview Suite

Obtaining valuable evidential information from a child in an objective, developmentally sensitive, and legally defensible manner, in order to achieve quick and successful criminal prosecutions.

<b>Location:</b>	Lagos State
<b>Reach:</b>	200 CSA Criminal Investigations (Jan – Dec 2019)

Our forensic Interview Suite, a state of the art, first of its kind facility is designed to promote a friendly and non-threatening environment where a child can make full disclosures. It consists of an interview room, forensic recording equipment and technology, and an observation room with a one-way mirror where stakeholders such as the child advocate, police, child psychologist and medical personnel are able to observe an on-going forensic interview in order to note cogent facts about a child's disclosure. We have 6 certified resident Forensic Interviewers.

A forensic interview is a structured conversation with a child, with the sole intention of eliciting detailed information about a possible event that the child may have experienced or witnessed. The information elicited from the child during forensic interviewing is helpful in criminal investigation of child sexual abuse perpetrators. It also helps in assessing the child's safety, medical and psychosocial needs.

Owing to the fact that it is difficult for children to prove the offence that happened; because the perpetrators often deny the abuse and most acts of sexual abuse cannot be witnessed, the child's statement is a vital evidence in child abuse cases. Developmental issues, such as children's varying abilities to recall events and the use of language, as well as the trauma they may have experienced, complicate efforts to obtain information about the abuse. The forensic interview is designed to overcome these obstacles and help children in disclosing abuse.

Due to its uniqueness in Nigeria, the Cece Yara Child Advocacy Centre collaborates with The Ministry of Youth and Social Development, The Ministry of Justice, the Police, and other child protection agencies in ensuring that child forensic interviews is part of the investigative process, becomes best practice in Nigeria.

## **Goal**

- To obtain a statement of events from a child in an objective, developmentally sensitive, and legally defensible manner.

## **Objectives**

- To obtain valuable evidential information from a child without subjecting the child to the trauma associated with having to relay the details of abuse event over and over again.
- To overcome obstacles associated with disclosure and help children in disclosing abuse.
- To achieve quicker and successful criminal prosecution based on the preponderance of evidence produced

# The Cece Yara Child Advocacy Shelter

## Providing Emergency Shelter for 3 months to Families

<b>Location:</b>	Lagos State
<b>Reach:</b>	1,000 Families (Jan – Dec 2019)

The Cece Yara Child Advocacy Centre Shelter provides a temporary safe environment for children between the age of 5 and 18 years who are victims of sexual abuse and their non-offending family members where necessary for up to 8 weeks, giving the individuals or families enough time to heal and continue with life.

Our shelter, which can conveniently house 20 children at a time and consists of two sitting rooms, play areas, a dining room, a kitchen, three female dormitories and a family room, ensures that every child has access to our services: psycho – social assessment, case management, group counselling session, interactive plays, supportive counselling, legal advocacy, food, clothing, referrals and supportive assistance from other agencies we are affiliated with.

### Goal

- To provide a safe and healthy environment where children who have suffered from sexual abuse and their non-offending family members, who remain at risk can be accommodated temporarily away from further risk while they are provided with legal, psycho-social, medical and emotional help.

### Objectives

- To ensure that children arriving at a shelter are able to leave behind them tense relationships and dangerous environments exposing them to emotional, verbal, physical and sexual abuse.
- To ensure that children in the shelter are integrated into a safe and protected home without any of the violent symptoms they were accustomed to.
- To ensure that children have access to child psychologists during counselling session while children participate in group discussions with other children who have had similar experiences in their homes.



# Prevention, Education & Awareness Creation

## Empowering Children On How To Prevent Child Sexual Abuse

<b>Program Title:</b>	The Cece Yara Safe Kids Awareness Program
<b>Program Area:</b>	Lagos State
<b>Duration:</b>	Ongoing
<b>Reach:</b>	20,000 Children in Lagos State (Jan – Dec 2019)

The program is designed for children between the ages of 5–18 years in Lagos State. We reach the children through their primary & secondary schools, youth organisations and religious organisations. This prevention and awareness program is in keeping with the recent Lagos State Executive Order, in respect of the State's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. The Policy emphasizes that all schools, child-centred and related institutions, have a shared responsibility in ensuring the welfare and safety of children. The Policy mandates that such institutions must share information about child protection and good practice that will encourage children to develop a sense of independence and autonomy in a way that is appropriate to their age and stage of development.

The structure of this program is child-friendly, developmentally appropriate, provides clear and positive messages about setting boundaries assertively, and is designed to teach pupils how to stay safe from sexual abuse. The program is based on the PANTS Rule licensed to the Cece Yara Foundation by the **National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC)** based in the UK, as well as an innovative children's cartoon licensed to us by **ChildLine India** that has been adapted to suit our audience.

Each training session includes a presentation by a certified child protection officer, an interactive video show, group discussions and a Question and Answer session to evaluate the understanding of each child and addresses individual concern areas.

### Goal

- To reduce the incidence of child sexual abuse by creating awareness and providing education on prevention of child sexual abuse in schools and religious organisations.

### Objectives

- To train children on body boundaries
- To train children on how to identify signs of sexual abuse
- To train children on how to report sexual abuse
- To empower children on how to prevent child sexual abuse
- To disseminate CYF resource information and educational materials

# The Cece Yara Adults Awareness Program

## To Teach Adults How To Recognise And Prevent Child Sexual Abuse

<b>Program Title:</b>	The Cece Yara Adults Awareness Program
<b>Program Area:</b>	Lagos State
<b>Duration:</b>	Ongoing
<b>Reach:</b>	10,000 Adults in Lagos State (Jan – Dec 2019)

The Cece Yara Adults Awareness Program is an enlightenment program that helps adults learn how to protect children from sexual abuse. At the Cece Foundation, it is our belief that adults are responsible for the safety of children and that adults should take responsible and proactive steps to protect children from sexual abuse. It is unrealistic to think that a child should be responsible for fending off sexual advances by an adult. But the ignorance of adults makes this an everyday reality for children.

We use an evidence-informed approach, and provide simple and practical actions that can be taken to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. It is accompanied by instructional videos of real life experiences and is built on a collection of best practices that create and sustain grass root efforts aimed at cultural change. A critical factor that shapes how children deal with the impact of sexual abuse is the response they receive from the adults around them. Our program which aims at preventing now assists and supports communities in creating sustainable child sexual abuse prevention initiatives that increase awareness, education, prevention, and advocacy.

This program is used by independent professionals, faith centers, child advocacy organizations, educational institutions, and youth organizations, among others.

### Goal

- To stop child sexual abuse through education of adults

### Objectives

- To train parents, caregivers and all adults on how to help prevent child sexual abuse
- To train parents on how to identify signs that child sexual abuse has occurred
- To educate parents, caregivers and all adults on their roles in child protection
- To empower parents, caregivers and all adults with reporting information
- To disseminate CYF resource information and educational materials





# Stakeholders' Forum

## To Build A Formal Network And Framework With Other Child-Protection Stakeholders

<b>Program Title:</b>	Stakeholders' Forum
<b>Program Area:</b>	Lagos State
<b>Duration:</b>	Ongoing
<b>Reach:</b>	500 Adults in Lagos State (Dec 2019)

The Forum provides a key interaction mechanism for all stakeholders to build and sustain a child protection model and thereby building happier childhoods, through our focus areas: raising awareness; increasing engagement; educating and empowering stakeholders and coordinating advocacy. We do this through an open and participatory approach, a process through which stakeholders develop, enhance and organise our systems, resources and abilities to perform and pursue our ultimate goal of child protection.

Stakeholders include the Lagos State Government, Ministries and Parastatals directly involved in child protection, Schools, Non-governmental organisations, Faith-based organisations, community-based organisations, psychologists and the representatives from the Special Family Units of the Nigerian Police.

### Goal

- To foster partnership and encourage inter-agency interaction

### Objectives

- To create an environment which will encourage disclosures by over 25 million children who experience sexual abuse in Nigeria every year
- Building a formal network and framework with other child-protection stakeholders to prevent abuse and support families in dealing with abuse and the investigative process
- To collaborate on best practices to communicate, make referrals, build capacity, to secure more prosecutions, and to break the cycle of child sexual abuse, by putting children first

# How To Support Our Work

## A. Program Title Sponsor

Full year sponsorship of any of our programs or services throughout the year.

### Benefits

- Sponsor recognition with prominent logo and Link on the Organization's Website - Partners Page
- Sponsor recognition with prominent logo on all promotional, instructional and educational materials
- Recognition through social media outlets and quarterly e-newsletters: mentions, logo & link
- Verbal recognition at lectures and workshops
- Logo located prominently on partners' page of program of events for other events
- Custom Donor Recognition Plaque
- Logo displayed on the Centre's Key Supporters' wall.

## B. Program Supporting Sponsor

Half year sponsorship of any of our programs or services throughout the year.

### Benefits

- Sponsor recognition with logo on the Cece Yara Foundation's Website - Partners Page
- Sponsor recognition with logo on all promotional, instructional and educational materials
- Recognition through social media outlets and quarterly e-newsletters: mentions and logo
- Logo on all electronic program materials
- Custom Donor Recognition Plaque

## C. Program Participating Sponsor

Quarter year sponsorship of any of our programs or services throughout the year.

### Benefits

- Sponsor recognition with logo on the Cece Yara Foundation's Website - Partners Page
- Sponsor recognition with logo on all electronic promotional, instructional and educational materials
- Recognition through social media outlets and quarterly e-newsletters: mentions and logo
- Custom Donor Recognition Plaque





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